

What is claimed is:

1. A geared motor comprising:

a yoke having an opening and receiving a motor unit;

a gear housing made of a resin material, said gear housing covering said opening of said yoke and receiving a worm gear assembly for transmitting a rotational force of said motor unit to an output shaft connected to said worm gear assembly, said worm gear assembly including a worm wheel, said gear housing having a wheel housing segment that receives and rotatably supports said worm wheel, said wheel housing segment having a base wall, said output shaft being connected to said worm wheel and being rotatably received in said base wall of said wheel housing segment such that an axial direction of said output shaft is generally perpendicular to a plane of said base wall of said wheel housing segment; and

a plurality of ribs extending over at least part of an outer surface of said base wall of said wheel housing segment, each one of said plurality of ribs having a lateral thickness that is measured in a direction perpendicular to said axial direction of said output shaft and that is equal to or smaller than an axial thickness of said base wall of said wheel housing segment measured in said axial direction of said output shaft.

2. A geared motor according to claim 1, wherein:

said wheel housing segment further includes a peripheral wall that generally extends from an outer peripheral edge of said base wall of said wheel housing segment in said axial direction

of said output shaft; and

said each one of said plurality of ribs further extends over at least part of an outer peripheral surface of said peripheral wall of said wheel housing segment.

3. A geared motor according to claim 1, wherein:

said wheel housing segment further includes a shaft supporting portion for rotatably supporting said output shaft;

said shaft supporting portion is located generally at a center of said base wall of said wheel housing segment; and

said each one of said plurality of ribs extends radially outwardly from said shaft supporting portion.

4. A geared motor according to claim 3, wherein said each one of said plurality of ribs has an axial thickness that is measured in said axial direction of said output shaft and that decreases from said shaft supporting portion toward said outer peripheral edge of said base wall of said wheel housing segment.

5. A geared motor according to claim 1, wherein:

said worm gear assembly further includes a worm;

said gear housing further includes a worm housing segment that includes a base wall, said worm housing segment receiving and rotatably supporting said worm; and

at least one of said plurality of ribs further extends over at least part of an outer surface of said base wall of said worm housing segment.

6. A geared motor according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of ribs are arranged at substantially equal intervals.

7. A geared motor according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of ribs are circumferentially arranged at substantially equal angular intervals.

8. A geared motor according to claim 1, further including a circumferential rib that extends about said output shaft in a circumferential direction in said outer surface of said base wall of said wheel housing segment, said circumferential rib having a radial thickness that is measured in a radial direction of said base wall of said wheel housing segment and that is equal to or smaller than said axial thickness of said base wall of said wheel housing segment.